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Christian  
Communicators  
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October 14, 2015

*Ex Parte*

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: *Amendment to the Commission's Rules Related to Retransmission Consent, MB Docket No. 10-71***

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On October 14, 2015, Dr. Jerry A. Johnson, President & CEO of the National Religious Broadcasters (NRB), sent the attached letter to FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler regarding the *Amendment to the Commission's Rules Related to Retransmission Consent (MB Docket No. 10-71)* proceeding.

Specifically, Dr. Johnson noted the importance of religious television broadcasters to local communities and urged the Commission not to move forward with repealing television broadcast exclusivity rules.

Pursuant to Section 1.1200, et seq., of the Commission's rules, a copy of this letter is being filed via ECFS with your office.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Aaron Mercer*

Aaron Mercer  
Vice President of Government Relations  
National Religious Broadcasters

cc: Jessica Almond



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The Honorable Tom Wheeler  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

*Re: Amendment to the Commission's Rules Related to Retransmission Consent, MB  
Docket No. 10-71*

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

National Religious Broadcasters (NRB) includes a number of religious television stations that provide an important service to local communities with their religious and family-oriented viewing choices. On behalf of NRB, I respectfully urge the Commission not to move forward with a plan to repeal television broadcast exclusivity rules.

There is broad and bipartisan consensus that TV programming exclusivity rules do not exist in a vacuum. Indeed, these rules are part of a larger and interconnected statutory and regulatory structure. In the context of that structure, they have provided an important mechanism by which local broadcasters can uphold contracts to provide certain programming to their communities.

A move to simply dismantle this one set of rules that provides a needed forum for broadcasters does not appear to lift a burden from the public. Rather, it is more likely to unbalance and further complicate the current framework, leading to uncertainty and additional costs for local stations. I urge the FCC to heed the call of many policymakers and stakeholders to steer clear of this path.

Thank you for your consideration and your leadership of the Federal Communications Commission.

Respectfully,

Jerry A. Johnson, Ph.D.  
President & CEO